The Chitties Bill has in view the prevention of fraud, and the exercise of more effective control over *chitty* transactions in general.

21. The Committee appointed to enquire into the working of the Jenmi and Kudiyan Regulation, V of 1071, have submitted their Report. This Report has been published in the Gazette, and the opinion of the public invited on the recommendations of the Committee. In pursuance of representations made by the Ezhava members at the Twelfth Session of the Assembly, a Committee was appointed, towards the close of 1091, consisting of an official President and six Ezhava gentlemen as members, of whom four are non-officials, to enquire into the customs obtaining in the Ezhava community in regard to marriage and inheritance, to suggest the lines on which legislation is necessary with reference to public opinion in the community, and to submit a draft Bill in accordance therewith.

22. Since the last Assembly, Mr. K. G. Paramesvara Menon, who had been returned as the representative of the members of the Kottayam Division to the Legislative Council, has vacated his seat by accepting service under Government. The term of membership of Mr. A. M. Kumara Pillai, the representative of the members of the Padmanabhapuram Division in the Council, will also shortly expire. His Highness the Maha Raja has been pleased to command that the members of the two Divisions be asked to elect their representatives, whose names will be duly submitted to His Highness for consideration. They will meet under the presidency of their respective Dewan Peishkars for this purpose to-day.

23. **Police.**—With a view to promote despatch of work in the department, the Police Circles in the Padmanabhapuram and Trivandrum Divisions have been abolished since the close of the year, except in the town of Trivandrum, and an Assistant Superintendent of Police has been appointed and posted to Nagercoil. The Circle Inspectors in these Divisions are now in direct charge of Police Stations. The measure is experimental, and, if found successful, will gradually be brought into operation in the other Divisions as well. A separate Motor Inspector has been appointed for the effective inspection of motor buses for the carriage of passengers.

24. **Judiciary.**—The work in the High Court having become congested, the constitution of an additional Bench was found necessary to work off the accumulated arrears. The formation of a temporary Third Bench for one year was accordingly sanctioned with effect from the 1st Chingam 1092. The retention of the temporary Second Judge's Court at Alleppey for another year was sanctioned with effect from the 1st Kumbham 1091 and provision has been made in the budget for its continuance till the end of 1092. The appointment of two temporary Second Judges has also been sanctioned for six months each during the current year, one at Nagercoil to clear off the arrears, and the other at Trivandrum in connection with the disposal of an important interpleader suit. The Munsiff-Magistrate's Court at Devicolam was made permanent.

25. **Village Panchayat Courts.**—Six Panchayat Courts were established with effect from the 1st Chingam 1092 at Trivandrum, Nagercoil, Quilon, Alleppey, Kottayam and Parur. Great care has been taken in the selection of Judges for these Courts, and the Government hope that the introduction of this beneficent measure will serve to help the litigant public in the speedy disposal of petty suits. These Courts now exercise jurisdiction in respect of civil suits whose value does not exceed Rs. 30. In the event of the measure becoming popular and useful, which the Government fully trust it will be, there will be no hesitation in conferring enhanced powers on the judges and in opening similar Courts in other centres.

26. **Registration.**—Since the close of the year, the opening of three new Sub-Registry Offices has been sanctioned.

27. Notaries Public have been appointed under the Negotiable Instruments Regulation for the towns of Trivandrum, Quilon and Alleppey, as also a Controller of Patents and Designs for the State under the Patents and Designs Regulation.

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